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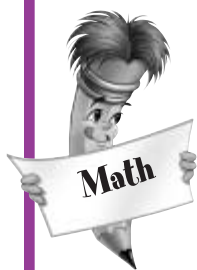
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## CREDITS

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## GRAMMAR AND USAGE



### KNOW THE SKILL: **COMPLETE AND INCOMPLETE SENTENCES**

Complete sentences need two parts. They need a subject. A *subject* names the person, place, or thing that does the action. Complete sentences also need a verb. A *verb* tells what the action is.

### DURING THE TEST

Ask yourself: What is doing the action? That's the subject. Then ask: What is the action? That's the verb. If either or both are missing, the sentence is incomplete and not correct.

### TEST EXAMPLE

- 1 Which sentence is NOT complete?
- (A) The ducks on the pond.
  - (B) The water is frozen.
  - (C) The wind whistled through the trees.
  - (D) Winter makes me feel very cold.

### THINK ABOUT THE ANSWER

Option A is not a complete sentence because it does not have a verb. The sentence doesn't say *what* the ducks are doing, so it is a fragment. Options B, C, and D are complete sentences.

### NOW YOU TRY IT

- 2 Which sentence is NOT complete?
- (F) The leaves are changing color.
  - (G) Flying south for the winter.
  - (H) Red, juicy apples hang from the apple tree.
  - (J) My favorite season is fall.

Check your answer on page 111.



### Watch for Certain Words

Keep an eye out for words like *not*, *but*, *best*, and *except*. These words place limits on the answer. Also watch out for absolute words like *always*, *never*, and *only*. One of these words in a question means there can be no exceptions.

## COMPREHENSION



### KNOW THE SKILL: **COMPARING AND CONTRASTING**

Passages often compare people, places, situations, or things. The passage might explain how two things are similar by comparing or how they are different by contrasting.

### DURING THE TEST

A test question may ask you to compare or contrast two or more things. Start by rereading the passage. Look for sentences that explain how the two things are the same or how they are different. The question could be multiple choice or true/false. It might also ask you to write a few sentences. Passages that compare and contrast two things often use key words and phrases like *in contrast to*, *but*, *however*, *like*, and *unlike*. Watch for them!

### TEST EXAMPLE

- 1 Write two or more sentences that compare the first dogs with today's dogs.

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### THINK ABOUT THE ANSWER

Here's one correct answer: *The first dogs and today's dogs are both pets. Both the first dogs and today's dogs were bred for special purposes. Both are happiest living in packs, either with other dogs or with people.* This answer describes several similarities. It does not mention differences.

### NOW YOU TRY IT

- 2 Write two or more sentences to describe how retrievers and terriers are different.

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Check your answer on page 110.



## WHOLE NUMBER COMPUTATION, OPERATIONS, ESTIMATION

### KNOW THE SKILL: CHOOSING AN OPERATION

Many tests will ask you to choose the correct operation to solve a problem. You'll need to think through what the problem is asking you to find. Then you'll be able to choose the correct operation, such as addition or division.

### DURING THE TEST

Try explaining the problem to yourself in your own words. This will help you understand what operation is needed to get the answer. Look for key words that hint or tell you what to use.

### TEST EXAMPLE

Which equation would you use to solve the story problem?

- 1 Ms. Flores' class has 24 students. Mr. Jackson's class has 26. How many students are there in both classes?
- (A)  $26 - 24$       (B)  $24 - 26$       (C)  $24 + 26$       (D)  $2 + 24$

### THINK ABOUT THE ANSWER

Option C is correct. To solve this one, add together the number of students in each class.  $24 + 26 = 50$ . There are 50 students in both classes.

### NOW YOU TRY IT

Which equation would you use to solve the story problem?

- 2 Kaylee picked 47 wild mushrooms in the forest behind her house. Her dad used 25 of them to make four salads. How many mushrooms were left?
- (F)  $47 + 25$       (G)  $47 - 5$       (H)  $25 - 4$       (J)  $47 - 25$

Check your answer on page 111.



### Hands Off!

Don't change your answer unless you have checked it. Never change an answer just because you think it doesn't look right.